



News Release

STATE OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DPSCS Will Plant One Million Trees in Maryland

Thousands to be Planted on Arbor Day, April 2

TOWSON, MD (March 25, 2008)---As part of Secretary Gary Maynard's continuing effort to partner with communities all across Maryland, the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) has resolved to plant one million trees in Maryland, beginning with a massive effort on Arbor Day, April 2.

From Cumberland to the Eastern Shore, DPSCS correctional personnel from the Division of Correction, Patuxent Institution, and the Division of Pretrial Detention and Services will be partnering with local, state, and federal leaders to plant trees in parks, in medians, and along roadways, as well as planting seedlings in "tree farms" at their own prison facilities.

The massive effort, never before undertaken, should result in more than four thousand trees being planted in the single-day kickoff effort. Among the activities planned:

- ❖ Maryland Correctional Enterprises will plant 150 trees at Antietam National Battlefield, site of the bloodiest battle in American history.
- ❖ The Eastern Region of the Division of Correction (DOC) will plant trees along U.S. 50, the Eastern Shore's major highway.
- ❖ Patuxent Institution will plant 400 young trees, whose care will eventually be taken over by the inmate Horticulture Master Gardener Program.
- ❖ DOC facilities in Jessup will partner with the Jessup Community Advisory Council to plant trees in the park along the MARC commuter station, and will plant trees in other nearby locations.

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- ❖ DOC's three Hagerstown prisons will plant hundreds of trees along their properties and will donate trees to several towns, including Boonsboro and Hancock.
- ❖ The two Cumberland DOC prisons will partner with outside agencies and local citizens to plant trees both on their properties and in community park areas.
- ❖ The Baltimore Pre-Release Unit for Women will plant hundreds of trees along Herring Run Park in Baltimore.

These efforts are being made possible because of the hard work of many DPSCS personnel in securing grants, as well as because of partnerships with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, the Maryland Department of the Environment, the Chesapeake Bay Trust, the State Highway Administration, and the National Park Service, among others.

Specific details on the various regional activities, including media photo opportunities, will be forthcoming.

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